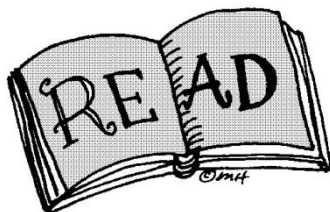


# Parent's Guide to



## Accelerated Reader



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

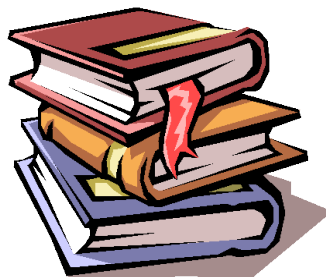
**Your child will be taking part in the Accelerated Reader(AR) program at Blue Coat Academy. This booklet will help to answer your questions about AR. If you have other questions, please feel free to contact your child's English teacher.**

### **What is Accelerated Reader (AR)?**

AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book at his/her own level and reads it at his/her own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the

computer - passing the quiz means that your child has understood what has been read. AR gives both children and teachers information based on the quiz results which the teacher then uses to help the child set targets and ongoing reading practice.

Children using AR choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them.



## **Progress During Lessons**

Teachers and librarians will help your child choose books that they enjoy and are at their personal reading level, which allows your child to pass the quiz and experience success.

If your child does not do well on the quiz, the teacher may assist him/her by:

- Helping to choose another book
- Listen to your child read and ask them to make notes on what they have read
- Asking more questions as your child reads and before he/she takes a quiz

**Children really enjoy taking the quizzes. Since they are reading books that they enjoy and at their own reading levels, they are likely to be successful.**

### **Why Accelerated Reader?**

**How much will my child read during the school day?**

Your child will have at least 60 minutes set aside for reading during each school day; this would include taking a quiz.

## **How can I help my child become a better reader?**

As with anything, reading improves with practice.

Encourage your child to read at home by;

- Reading with them daily
- When reading with your child, stop and ask questions to be sure your child understands what is read.

Such as;

**General comprehension questions you can ask while your child reads or while you read to your child.**

1. Who was the author and illustrator of the book?
2. Who were the main characters in the story?
3. Who was your favourite character and why?
4. How did the story start?

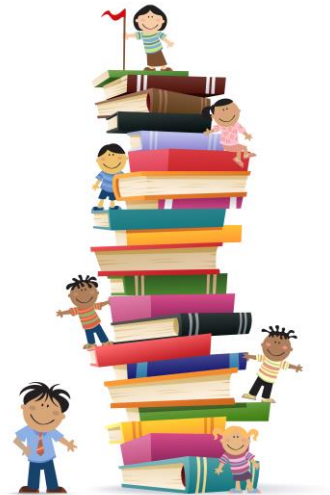
5. What happened in the middle of the story?
6. What happened at the end of the story?
7. What was the main feeling in the story (eg was it happy, sad) and why was this so?
8. Where was the story set?
9. How did the story make you feel and why?
10. Did you learn any new words from this story, if so what?

These are question starters to help you when you ask your child questions while they read to you.

The farther down the list you go, the more challenging the questions are.

### **Knowledge**

- Who?
- What?
- When?
- Where?
- How?



- List the facts in order.

### **Comprehension**

- What is meant by... ?
- Can you describe... ?
- What is the difference... ?
- What is the main idea... ?
- Why did... ?
- Explain why... ?

### **Application**

- Who would you choose...?
- What would happen if...?
- How would you...?
- Do you know someone like...?
- Would you do the same thing in the same situation...?
- If you had to...what would you do?

### **Analysis**

- What part of the reading was funniest?



- What part was the most exciting?
- What part was the saddest?
- Tell some things that could not have happened in real life.
- Which things were fact, and which were opinions?
- What could you do that was just like what the person in the story did?
- Find five words in the story which begin with the same sound.
- List five compound words from the story.
- What was the purpose of...?

### **Synthesis**

- Retell one event from an animal's point of view.
- How could we/you...?
- Make up another ending to the story that still fits the details.
- Rewrite a sentence from the reading but change one thing in it.
- Write a new title for this story.

- Write a two-line poem about the reading.

### **Evaluation**

- Was the main character in this reading good or bad? Why?
- Which is better...?
- Would you agree that...?
- What is your opinion of...?
- Were they right to do...? Why? Or why not?
- Compare two characters in the reading. Tell which one you think is better and why.

### **General Non-Fiction Questions**

What did you learn that you didn't know before?

What fact(s) did you enjoy learning about the most? Why?

What pictures did you find the most interesting? Why?

What text features (pictures, diagrams, labels, captions, etc.) helped you understand the reading more clearly? Tell how it helped you.

What was the most interesting thing you learned?

What questions do you have now after reading this material?

Was there anything the author didn't tell you that you really wanted to know?

What do you think is most important about what you just read?

Was there anything you just read that surprised you?

Reading with your child, no matter what the child's age, is an important part of developing a good reader.



"The more you **read**  
the more **things** you know.  
The more that you **learn**  
the more **places** you'll go."  
-Dr. Seuss